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SITTING IN MEDICAL GRAND ROUNDS THINKING ABOUT MY DIVORCE

Dr Chatterjee is saying that the heart can harm itself, can make the wrong choices and fail. It has to do with receptors, landing sites along the wall of the cell where hormones bring their meticulous shapes like messages of rescue. But as the heart begins to fail, he says, the receptors deactivate—as if to turn their faces to the wall.

And the failing heart fails more.

I wondered if the mind could work that way, choosing the wrong response, like stepping into a mudslide, like what happens when love fails and we harm the ones we love.

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